

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark Matkin on 08/28/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 16, after the word "surface", a phrase ---the depositing the second capacitor electrode comprises using a halogen-containing gas, said treating of the exposed oxide-containing surface of the capacitor dielectric region being effective to reduce halogen incorporation into the capacitor dielectric region than would otherwise occur in the absence of said treating--- has been inserted thereof.

Claim 26 has been canceled.

In claim 34, line 17, after the word "surface", a phrase ---the depositing the second capacitor electrode comprises using a halogen-containing gas, said treating of the exposed oxide-containing surface of the capacitor dielectric region being effective to reduce halogen incorporation into the capacitor dielectric region than would otherwise occur in the absence of said treating--- has been inserted thereof.

In claim 129, line 11, after the word "surface", a phrase ---the depositing the second capacitor electrode comprises using a halogen-containing gas, said treating of the exposed oxide-containing surface of the capacitor dielectric region being effective to reduce halogen

incorporation into the capacitor dielectric region than would otherwise occur in the absence of said treating--- has been inserted thereof.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11, 16-25, 32-42, 44-51, 125-126, 129 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose either ins singly or in combination a method of making a capacitor having the step of the depositing the second capacitor electrode comprises using a halogen-containing gas, said treating of the exposed oxide-containing surface of the capacitor dielectric region being effective to reduce halogen incorporation into the capacitor dielectric region than would otherwise occur in the absence of said treating and other steps in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to (Vikki) Hoa B. Trinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-1719. The Examiner can normally be reached from Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM Eastern Time. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Wael Fahmy, can be reached at (571) 272-1705. The office fax number is 571-273-8300.

Any request for information regarding to the **status** of an application may be obtained from the **Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system**. Also, status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public Pair. In addition, status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. If you have questions pertaining to the Private PAIR system, please contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Lastly, paper copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications will cease to be mailed to applicants with Office actions as of June 2004. Paper copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature will continue to be included with office actions. These cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are available for download via the Office's PAIR. As an alternate source, all U.S. patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial sources. Applicants are referred to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197 for information on this policy. Requests to restart a period for response due to a missing U.S. patent or patent application publications will not be granted.

(Vikki) Hoa B Trinh
Examiner, Art Unit 2814

/Wai-Sing Louie/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2814